

FFY State Plan Update - Attachment 4.8 (b) (4) – Evidence of Collaboration Regarding Supported Employment Services and Extended Services

Washington DVR primarily provides Supported Employment services to individuals with developmental disabilities and individuals with mental illness. Of these two client groups, individuals with developmental disabilities represent the vast majority of Supported Employment outcomes. While we continue to work with the DSHS Division of Behavioral Health and Recovery to identify resources for supported employment, the state has limited capacity at this time to provide extended services except in a small number of communities.

Diligent efforts will continue to facilitate extended services for individuals with mental illness through natural supports, employers and self-pay. However, very often individuals with significant mental health disabilities require more intensive support than is available through these resources.

Efforts continue to promote and expand resources for extended services to individuals with mental illness. Washington DVR is working in collaboration with the Division of Behavioral Health and Recovery, the Washington State Mental Health Transformation Grant, and the Washington Community Mental Health Council to expand the availability of extended services through alternative resources and innovative approaches. The intended result of this effort will be to establish cooperative agreements with all 13 Regional Support Networks responsible for the delivery of community mental health services at the County level by the end of FFY 2011.

In light of the changes to the Social Security Administration Ticket to Work/Employment Network regulations, DVR is taking a leadership role in approaching developmental disability (DD), mental health (MH), and traumatic brain injury (TBI) service providers to build capacity for extended support services with these new resources.